

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
STATE MARSHAL COMMISSION
450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 1403, Hartford, CT 06103
Tel. 860-713-5372 Fax. (860) 622-2938

Meeting Was Conducted Remotely Using Microsoft Teams

DRAFT MINUTES
STATE MARSHAL COMMISSION MEETING
February 23, 2023

Commissioner Skyers-Thomas, Vice Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. Staff Attorney Sousa advised all participants that the proceedings were being recorded.

Vice Chairperson Skyers-Thomas confirmed all members in attendance and verified that a minimum 5 voting member quorum was present.

Members present and participating remotely: Chairperson Thomas Esposito; Vice-Chairperson Shirley Skyers-Thomas; Hon. Leo Diana; Mildred Torres-Ferguson; John Vamos; Salvatore Vitrano; Ex-officio (non-voting) Members State Marshal Thomas Burke and State Marshal Lisa Stevenson.

Commission Staff present: Staff Director Douglas Moore (non-voting); Staff Attorney Thomas J. Sousa, Jr. (non-voting); and Special Investigator Anthony Valenti (non-voting).

Members Absent: Bryan Cafferelli and Michael Desmond.

Topics:

1. Minutes of the January 26, 2023 Regular Meeting:

Commissioner Esposito made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 26, 2023 regular meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Diana, the motion passed unanimously.

2. Paralegal Specialist:

Staff Director Moore reported that we have started the interview process and more interviews are to come and hopefully by the next month a paralegal will be on board.

3. Retirements/Resignations/Inactive/Deaths:

Commissioner Skyers-Thomas reported the recent death of Hartford County State Marshal Roland E. Mailloux. Commissioner Skyers-Thomas asked Staff Attorney Sousa to briefly outline the process and steps taken by commission staff upon receiving notice of a

marshal's death. Staff Attorney Sousa presented a brief outline of the staff procedures and reported that the Office of State Auditors was notified on 02/14/2023 of the death; the public-facing list of state marshals was updated and the BizNet courthouse duty calendar for temporary restraining order assignments has also updated.

Commissioner Torres-Ferguson made a motion to accept New Haven County State Marshal Joseph W. Sullivan's retirement request, without issuing a retired state marshal badge. Seconded by Commissioner Vitrano, the motion passed unanimously.

4. Complaints:

Commissioner Diana made a motion to approve proposed final decisions as follows: 17-41 *In Re* Sullivan, John (*Stipulated Reprimand*); 22-29 *In Re* Longobardi (*Stipulated Reprimand*); 22-07 Elizondo v. Balletto, J. (*Dismissal due to lack of standing*); and 23-03 *In Re* Sullivan, Joseph (*Dismissal due to Retirement*). Seconded by Commissioner Esposito, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Esposito made a motion that, based upon the information and findings in complaint case 22-07, the commission direct the staff to look into and make a determination whether, based upon the circumstances raised proposed in complaint 22-07, any *In Re* Complaints should be initiated. Seconded by Commissioner Torres-Ferguson, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Esposito made a motion to find no probable cause and dismiss complaint file number 22-20 Chasse v. Burke. Seconded by Commissioner Torres-Ferguson, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Torres-Ferguson made a motion to find probable cause and refer files 22-36 *In Re* Winik; 22-35 Rabbett v. McCrewell; 22-38 *In Re* McCrewell; and 22-39 Richey v. McCrewell to an Oversight Committee hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Diana, the motion passed unanimously.

5. Client Fund Accounts:

Commissioner Skyers-Thomas asked Staff Attorney Sousa to provide a brief summary of the 2020 Client Fund Account audit.

Following Staff Attorney Sousa's summary, Commissioner Esposito made a motion to approve the Draft 2020 Client Fund Audit Report as received from Whittlesey. Seconded by Commissioner Torres-Ferguson, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Vitrano made a motion to Motion to authorize an audit of 2020 client fund accounts for up to 5 state marshals. Seconded by Commissioner Esposito, the motion passed unanimously.

6. Administrative Updates:

Staff Attorney Sousa reported on recent developments concerning important DMV mail for state marshals that was sent to DAS and is being returned to DMV. This is only impacting the state marshals who requested their addresses be suppressed as authorized under a recent change to state law. Staff Attorney Sousa questioned if instead of sending the marshals' mail to DAS, DMV could send the mail to the individual state marshals' P.O. Boxes. Commissioner Torres-Ferguson asked Staff Attorney Sousa if he'd checked with DMV to see if the items in question could even be mailed to a P.O. Box. Attorney Sousa made a note to check with DMV to follow up on this topic.

7. Use of Force Policy:

Commissioner Skyers-Thomas asked Special Investigator Valenti to provide an update on this topic. Investigator Valenti reported that the commission staff has not yet received any feedback from the Attorney General's Office regarding the proposed Use of Force Policy changes that were sent over for review.

Commissioner Skyers-Thomas asked the ex-officio state marshals if they had any additional information to provide concerning Use of Force Policy, neither did.

Commissioner Vitrano made a motion to table the item. Seconded by Commissioner Esposito, the motion to table passed unanimously.

Commissioner Skyers-Thomas stated there was no further agenda items to discuss and asked if there was anything else for the good of the order prior to a motion to adjourn.

Ex-officio State Marshal Stevenson reported that state marshals were at the state capitol today working and testifying on legislative issues and expressed thanks for the support and assistance received from Commissioner Skyers-Thomas and Commissioner Torres-Ferguson.

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Diana, seconded by Commissioner Torres-Ferguson, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.